

Vision- A World Class School

Arbor Heights' School Communicator

January 3, 2012

Communication for Our Community from "Your Principal"

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Happy New Year to you all! I hope that this newsletter finds you well and that you and your families enjoyed the long, winter break! On behalf of the Arbor Heights' Staff— I wish you a healthy and peaceful beginning to 2012.

Teachers, support staff and Principal Collins are ready for your child and are very excited to have your child return happy and healthy after a long break from school. As we move toward the second half of the school year, I want to assure all of you we will work very hard to make certain that your child has a positive and productive winter and spring!

As many of you already know, this year will be tough financially for our school, district, and districts across the state. State and federal revenue sources have diminished and communities are being asked to fill the gap. Navigating these challenging times will require all of us to do our part.

At Arbor Heights, however, I am confident that your child will attend a school that is safe, provides an excellent environment for learning, and is filled with staff members who care for your child and will ensure that your child has a great school year. There are several reasons for my confidence. We have a community that supports education and our school. Our community helped to pass the Families and Education Levy and as a result, the levy dollars will fill in some of the holes that the state left in the District and our school budget. I am grateful for our community for putting education first.

Arbor Heights' parents and families are involved and active in the PTA and it makes a difference. Generous families who helped to provide Thanksgiving turkeys and "Giving Tree" gifts contribute to my confidence. The Arbor Heights PTA provides resources to our school the district can't. Without the Arbor Heights PTA and generous families who supported the Arbor Heights' Auction, raising approximately \$48,000, our school would not be able to provide some of the rich and engaging learning experiences that benefit your child.

And confidence grows strong, because our families, parents, and community volunteers work determinedly in our classrooms, write grants for our school, and also serve on school committees tirelessly.

I am also confident because of our quality and highly committed teachers and support staff. Our team is being asked each year to do more with less. They keep the best interests of students at the core of what they do every day. They work diligently toward our goal "development of lifelong critical and creative thinkers," regardless of any challenges that the state budget may send our way.

Finally, I consider myself to be extremely fortunate to be part of such a wonderful school system and to have the daily opportunities to spend time with our students, their families and a truly wonderful and dedicated teaching and support staff.

Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Christy



JANUARY

Jan 3

~PTA Board Meeting 7:00

Jan 9

~Monday Morning Monthly Meeting 9:30/Martin Luther King Assembly

Jan 16

~No School ~ Martin Luther King

Jan 19

~PTA General Meeting 6:30

Jan 24

~**EARLY RELEASE 12:00 PM**

Jan 26

~Winter Concert, 1:30

Primary 6:00

Intermediate 7:00 Bake Sale!

Jan 27

~No School~ Day Between Semesters

FEBRUARY

Feb 1

~Early Dismissal 1:00pm

Feb 6

~Monday Morning Monthly Meeting 9:30am

Feb 7

~Author Visit **Paul Owen Lewis**

~PTA Board Meeting 7:00pm

Feb 16

~ PTA General Meeting 6:30pm

Feb 20-24

~Mid-Winter Break~

MARCH

Mar 1

~Global Reading Challenge Cafeteria, 3rd-5th Grade 1:30-2:15pm

Mar 5

~Monday Morning Monthly Meeting 9:30am

Mar 6

~PTA Board Meeting 7:00pm



FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

Reminder: With traveling over the winter break and visiting family and friends and general high rioting and revelry, you or someone you love may have inadvertently picked up a case of head lice. **I highly recommend that all families regularly perform weekly head lice checks at home every week.** I would like this to become the normal culture for our community – weekly head lice checks performed at home.

Lice do not discriminate! They will crawl onto clean heads, dirty heads, white, black, yellow, pink, green and purple heads, head with short, medium, long hair, heads with straight or large curls or small curls. Every family needs to check every person in the family every week for these creepy crawlers.

If found, please treat according to trusted recommended treatments. You could consult your doctor, your pharmacist, your public health department, or your school nurse (me!). Also, inform any families or friends that have been in recent

FURLOUGH ½ Day – January 24

Dismissal at 12:00 PM!

Are you interested in volunteering to participate in three school committees? If so, please contact Christy Collins at ccollins@seattleschools.org

The three committees are: Character Development Curriculum, Student and Parent Handbook, and Student Placement.